

# SARGENTRIVIA

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Ye editors thank the many members of the family who have sent Christmas cards, and wish you all the New Year's best. Ziegler Sargent, editor; Agnes W.B. Sargent, assistant editor.

Ensign George S. Grove, U.S.N., son of Barbara Sargent Moorehead, made a trip to Japan, returning to the Pacific coast in December after stopping at Hawaii on December 14th. Jimmy wrote the following on September 19th while in Japan traveling on a railroad, that at the former Jap naval base at Yokosuka: " ... and reported to the Officers' Club, a former Jap Officers' club for quarters. We were quartered in satisfactory rooms, no showers, no soap but livable none the less. We found that we could delay our departure for the South by a day, so we did, and then decided to visit Tokyo as soon as we could get off. We hitched a ride to the station and climbed aboard the train. The train, a typical Jap train, was good, comparable to the Long Island trains as far as dirt and roughness are concerned. One or two cars are reserved for the Allied troops and we ride free. The trip was in daylight so I enjoyed, quite naturally, the scenery. The country is much as I expected. The coast is irregular and rocky affording excellent natural harbors everywhere. We passed by many small farms. The people grow rice mostly but I saw some corn, sweet potatoes, oats, wheat, onions, etc. There is hardly any livestock - a few horses is all that I saw though I have been told that eggs are available for 6 yen apiece (15 yen to the dollar over here). Oxen are used also I am told. The houses are all of wood in the country, one story and as Japanese as all the stateside pictures show them to be. They appear to be clean inside for the Jap people on the whole are a clean race. ... On the way up to Tokyo we passed right through Yokohama, which is the big Army supply port over here. I have never seen bomb damage before, but I received a good initiation from the windows of the train to Tokyo. On the right and on the left the industrial areas were absolutely burnt out. Empty shells of buildings, chimneys, walls and mostly foundations are all that remain of what was once a busy area. A few shacks have sprung up and grass and weeds cover the burnt land. We did not see any of the bombed portions of Tokyo besides the railroad itself. We saw the Imperial Hotel, an interesting building which looks like one of the hotels in the Southwest - low, flat and spread out, the Palace Grounds surrounded by a huge moat and equally impressive wall centuries old. The city is quite modern looking but is dirty and the 'smell of the Orient' is not far from you on the streets and on the trains. The next day we hung around waiting for our train. ... At 7:50 after much rushing about the base we loaded our gear and tore to the station and just barely caught the train to A—, where we changed to this train I am now attempting to write on. The train is about the same size as those used in the States but very dirty. The Jap toilets and wash basins are very small and one must do a jack knife to wash one's hands. Our route over 800 miles ... I am now at Mozi. It has taken us all day to get here, and tonight we travel down the island of Kyushu to Kagasima. Not all in one stretch, however; we must change around midnight at Hakata. I haven't shaved or showered in three days so I'll be in swell shape when I board the 'Thomas' tomorrow if she is there! She may have gone to Sasebo or back to Yokosuka! The country on the way down was again very interesting. ... Incidentally the Jap train system is really efficient. Trains are on time always and during the war no train was ever held up more than 18 hours due to bomb damage. Along the tracks coming down we saw again the bomb damage to the big industrial areas. You have no idea how thorough the damage was. There is not one visible operating factory in these areas. In fact I saw no operating industry except pottery manufacture all the way down. Hiroshima was of the greatest interest to me and fortunately the track ran about two miles from the center of the bomb hit. The area was absolutely flattened out and burnt at the time but since then the Japs have built up hundreds of small shacks and repaired the RR station. Grass is growing and vegetable gardens can be seen, so the rays apparently don't destroy the soil. Three miles from the center the trees are blackened, however, even now, a year or so later. All along the Inland Sea the views are wonderful. It is a very beautiful country, really - picturesque and unique as far as I can tell. The mountains, really hills, come right down to the water, forcing the train through innumerable tunnels. The engineer blows his whistle just before entering and again just after leaving so we can tell just when to close the windows and just when to open them again. We passed the Naval Base at Kobe. It is said that it was larger than any of ours in the States in its prime but now it is deserted except for several U.S. Navy officers. Except for occasional shell holes and burnt out trains along the tracks and of course the industrial areas of the large cities, there is no sign of war damage and little indication that these humble people once sought to rule the Asiatic world. In fact you wonder how they even could have launched a propaganda campaign, so backwards and simple do these people appear. ... As we tear along here at night I can't help thinking how peaceable the Japs have become. There are no incidents at all unless they have been provoked by Allied troops, but here I am travelling in a train through the wild countryside in a military train guarded by one 'conductor' with a .45! At every stop there hundreds of Japs waiting for trains. When the proper train comes along they stack them in like sardines and must force the door shut most every time. ..."

Second Lieutenant Cornelius Kimball Ham of the Marines, stepson of Hilda Sargent Ham, is reported to have hitch-hiked his way from Peiping by air to San Francisco and to have reached New Haven three days before Yale opened. While on terminal leave<sup>Kim</sup> returned to college as a Junior, majoring in geology. His address is 1897 Silliman College, Yale Station, New Haven, Conn.

Bruce Fenn, 2d, son of Russell Sargent Fenn, who has been connected with the Big Bromley Ski School at Manchester, Vt., since leaving the Navy, wrote to ye editor on December 7th: " \*\*\* As regards the Big Bromley Ski School set-up, this winter I have made arrangements with Fred Pabst to take over on a concession basis. At the present writing this looks like a foolish move, as I fail to see a trace of snow. However, if snow eventually comes I believe the arrangement will prove beneficial to us both. I will have seven instructors with me, all of whom are now anxiously pacing the floor. We hope to open for the season on the 15th, depending upon snow conditions, and will operate just as long as we can ski. This, also depends upon the whim of St. Peter. You can judge from this that operating a ski school is not unlike an Arcostock potato farmer. We both depend pretty heavily on the elements. However, if one does not suffer a nervous breakdown worrying about the weather, it is a rather pleasant and certainly healthy way to spend the winter. It is, too, a business in which I meet a great many old friends. We do make new ones too. That is if they take kindly to the form of punishment we dish out. This is about all there is to it, as our school in attempting to teach the Arlberg technique differs very little from other schools. We perhaps are not quite so strenuous and strict as some, for it has always been my contention that learning to ski should be fun in so far as possible. We try to bring the beginner along to the point where it is fun as quickly as the capabilities and limitations of the individual allow. I have found that the Sargent family has their share of ski enthusiasts, many of whom I had in my classes last winter. If one were to grade them I believe Forbes shines brightly at the top of the list. My only criticism of Forbes is that he favors Stowe for his skiing. However, that is not a criticism. I am just envious. \*\*\*" Bruce and Gloria, his wife, spent the Yale-Princeton football game week-end in New Haven with his brother and sister-in-law, Sargent and Frankie.

Murray Sargent, Jr., wrote to ye editors on the train in Wyoming on December 4th: " \*\*\* I was congratulating myself on finally having a bit of a breather in sight, when I could get caught up on things like sleep, correspondence, and the like; and I thought I should be able to finish up my South American trip, in case you still wanted it. (We do-Eds.) But such was not to be. First a rush of overtime work; and then a trip to Washington; and now I'm on my way to Las Vegas, Nevada - on business; I hasten to add. I left N.Y.C. on the 'Century' Monday night; took a side trip for business reasons to Milwaukee; and am now on the 'City of San Francisco' as far as Ogden, Utah, where I have to change for a south bound train. Right now when I look up I see the rolling prairies with intermittent patches of snow; and in the distance snow-capped mountains. I don't know how long I will be in Nevada, but it will be at least two days - long enough, I am afraid, for me to be stranded if John L. keeps his strike going. \*\*\*" He also enclosed an interesting circular news letter which he edits for the benefit of the "Shoremaders", and which he writes "was largely inspired by Sargenttrivia". (Shoremade housed the Army Air Forces offices in Miami Beach, Fla., during the war.) Murray returned to New York by plane, "loaded with silver dollars". Las Vegas "wore" well, he reported, except for the continual gambling, and Murray was made an "Honorary Deputy Sheriff of the town, complete with badge, etc."

Caleb Loring, Jr., son of Suzanne Bailey Loring, in addition to his course in the Harvard Law School is a member of the Boston Athletic Association hockey team. He played wing on the team (composed largely of former members of Harvard hockey teams named Harding) in the game against Yale in New Haven on December 14th, Boston A.A. won by a score of 9-2. John M. Sargent, son of Murray Sargent is a "competitor" for the Yale hockey assistant managership and had the duty of looking after the visiting players. Weir, Jr., and Patty Sargent attended the game with ye editors, and the four had a brief meeting with Caleb after the game. The Lorings have moved from their Cambridge apartment to a house they have purchased at 51 Rutledge Road, Belmont, Mass.

Catherine V. Deming, daughter of Laura Rice Deming, is studying sociology for a Master of Arts degree in the New York School of Social Work of Columbia University. Kitty's address is Care Mrs. G.E. Chapin, 7 Vine St., Staten Island 1, N.Y.

Two sales of family real estate in New Haven have recently taken place. Murray Sargent sold to his tenant, Henry T. Bourne, a vice president of Sargent & Company, the house and lot at 256 Edwards Street. Murray had not occupied it since he moved to New York in 1934 to be administrator of the New York Hospital. He bought the property from his uncle, Samuel H. Fisher, who had bought it from the latter's brother-in-law, George Lewis Sargent. The other sale was of the land known as 247 Church Street, which Harriet Amelia Oaks Sargent, widow of Henry Bradford Sargent, after the house had been razed, gave in 1939 to her four children: Elizabeth, Ziegler, Rhoda Tilney and Murray. Henry B. Sargent first occupied the property as a tenant in 1882, later purchasing it from the heirs of the Reverend Leonard Bacon, grandfather of ye assistant editor (whose father, Alfred T., was born in the house). The Bacons had lived there for forty years. The house was built shortly before the Revolution on Church Street opposite the Green and was moved over a hundred years ago to make way for the Tontine Hotel.

Wing Howard, husband of Phebe Sargent Howard, had a one-man show (entitled "The Gaitie Parisienne") of eighteen water colors from December 2d to 16th at the Ferargil Galleries, 63 East 57th St., New York. The program had the following to say about him: "Wing Howard has worked at art through Paris, Stockholm, Venice and other art centers of the world starting at Bryn Mawr, Pa., 1921. He has

held exhibitions at the Print Club, Philadelphia, the Little Gallery, Beverly Hills, the San Diego Museum, the Art Center LaJolla, California. He is represented in the collections of Henry Mollhenny, Charles Boyer, Henry Fonda, Fred MacMurray, Vincent Price. This is his first one man show in New York. We feel that you will enjoy it hugely and take with you some release and happiness". Wing and Phe came on from California for the exhibition.

W. Sargent Lewis, son of Emily Sargent Lewis, was elected a Vice President of Sargent & Company at a meeting of the directors on December 19th. He also continues as Secretary. Sargent organized and has headed the Research and Product Engineering Department of the company.

Thomas D. Sargent, son of Joseph Denny Sargent, has resigned from the Riverside Trust Company, Hartford, Conn., and on January 1, 1947, will become an Assistant Vice President of the Hartford National Bank & Trust Company.

#### BIRTHDAY ANNIVERSARIES

- December 9 - Wilfred Sargent Lewis, son of Emily Sargent Lewis  
 10 - Ziegler Sargent, son of Henry Bradford Sargent  
 12 - (19th) Florence Louise Sargent, daughter of Howard Lewis Sargent  
 14 - (22d) Patricia Conrad Sargent, wife of Joseph Weir Sargent, Jr.  
       (17th) Norman Pettit, son of Millicent Lewis Pettit  
 15 - (8th) Diana Fenn, daughter of Converse Gray Fenn  
 19 - (11th) Diana Yandell Dillon, stepdaughter of John Appleton Clark  
 23 - (24th) Phebe Sargent Howard, daughter of Joseph Weir Sargent  
 26 - Jean Sargent Buck, daughter of John Sargent  
       (24th) Elizabeth Deming Goeller, daughter of Laura Rice Deming  
 29 - Joseph Weir Sargent, son of Joseph Denny Sargent  
 30 - Thomas Denny Sargent, son of Joseph Denny Sargent  
       William Fisher Sargent, son of Joseph Denny Sargent  
 January 3 - (20th) Thomas Owen Sargent, son of Thomas Denny Sargent  
       4 - (24th) Thomas Huntington Wiser, son of Dorothy Sargent Wiser  
       7 - (7th) Stephen Harding Holland, son of Richard Lyon Holland  
 10 - (3d) Katharine Avies Fenn, daughter of Bruce Fenn, 2d  
 11 - Mary Hale Cunningham Sargent, wife of Murray Sargent  
 16 - Anne (Nancy) Hoyt Sargent, wife of John Sargent

#### WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- December 24 - (20th) Howard L. and Florence Hiemann Sargent  
 31 - (4th) Nancy Grove and Arthur N. Turner  
 January 18 - (34th) Murray and Mary Hale Cunningham Sargent

Colonel Theodore Babbitt, husband of Peggy Fisher Babbitt, was separated from the Army on November 1st and is on terminal leave until January 1st.

Joseph Bradford Sargent (1822-1907), grandfather of most of us in ye editor's generation, wrote the following letter from New Haven, May 20, 1881, to his wife visiting in Boston. One of her sisters was the wife of Dr. Swan, another, Fannie, wife of Mr. Justus Hotchkiss, is mentioned in the letter: "Dear Florence: I sent you a short letter to care of Miss Lilly Swan, Berkeley St., Cambridge, in which I wrote you that not being sure of the correct address I had sent the check to you care of Dr. Swan, 132 Worcester St., Boston, - which I did. I have been informed since that the address of Dr. Swan is 32 Worcester St. instead of 132 - but Swans who are Doctors are scarce and I have no doubt but that you got the money and have spent most of it before now if the weather permitted. Brother George and our Northampton Lawyer were here yesterday P.M. and till this morning, when they went to Northampton. Probably George will be kept there tomorrow and possibly longer. Whenever he gets through with his testimony, I must begin, and I am holding myself ready to respond instantly to a telegram from Northampton, and I may remain there one whole day, possibly more - but probably only a few hours. I must be at New Haven Wednesday of next week, and may hold myself ready for any appointment here after Wednesday when called for to testify here in another case. I am holding myself ready this week for the case here as well as for the case in Northampton, and if the cases should happen to require my presence the same day in Northampton and here, for an all day session, somebody will be mad about it. I inform you of above to let you see that you must be the mistress of your own movements, and come home as you please and when you please. There is no particular necessity for you to come home till you have made as much of a visit as your friends can stand and you enjoy. The weather in Boston and Cambridge must have been so delightful since you left me at Springfield that I envy you your pleasure that you have taken in the walks and drives in the charming suburbs of Boston, on such splendid roads. May is such a glorious month to visit the country and country cousins! I was at Fannie's evening before last, and saw her and Mr. Hotchkiss and Mrs. Whitney standing together

on the corner of Church and Elm St. (store corner) about an hour this noon, probably discussing Conklin. All well in New Haven so far as I know. Theolog commencement exercises last evening. Had a card of invitation, regretted that the law (case) took necessary precedence. I should have enjoyed the sermons and prize prayers of the graduates. Give my respects to all the sisters, mothers, cousins and aunts and love to yourself. Have a good time as long as you please but consider the feelings of your hostesses. Yours Affectionately, J.B. Sargent"

Laura Sargent, daughter of Joseph Bradford Sargent, ("Aunt Laura" to most of us) died at 1:30 P.M. on Monday, December 23d, at her home, 178 Bishop Street, New Haven. She was in her 93d year and had been in the care of doctors and nurses for the last few years. Outstanding was the loving care by Miss Ann Flynn, R.N., whom the patient called her "cousin". The third of twelve children, she was born in Brooklyn, N.Y., October 18, 1854. The family moved to New Britain, Conn., before she was two years old and to New Haven before she was ten. After the death in 1874 of her mother (Elizabeth Collier Lewis Sargent) she took especial care of her youngest brother, John. Her father married April 22, 1878, Florence Winchester de Karajan, who was only six years her senior, and in the same year moved into the DeForest house at Elm and Church Streets, which he had considerably altered and enlarged. Ye editor remembers as a boy that Aunt Laura was the delicate member of the family and for some time there lived in the big house as her companion a charming Miss Jennings, a trained nurse. She was an omnivorous reader and was an early member of the Saturday Morning Club. In the club she took great interest. Its minutes, which as secretary she kept for years, are testimony to her skill with the pen and her wit. She had great charm and a keen sense of humor. She was an excellent story-teller and had great ability in writing either in prose or verse. After the death of her father in 1907 the big house was sold (later razed to make way for the County Court House), and she spent considerable time in Europe, especially in Italy, with various nieces as traveling companions. In 1912 she built her house on Bishop Street (Murphy & Dana, architects). For several years while he was working in New Haven her nephew, William F. Sargent, son of Joseph D. Sargent, lived with her. She was a hospitable hostess to many relatives and friends. And she kept up until recently a large correspondence. She had a considerable collection of family photographs, but was not interested in having her own taken, so that photographs of her are few and far between. The picture below is from a photograph loaned by her niece, Molly Sargent McCance.

